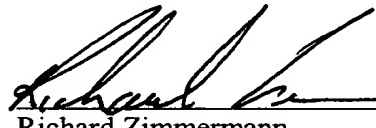


09/869511

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 8 JUN 2001
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#8/A

Applicants: Bengs et al.) "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label No.
) EL564459376US.
Serial No.: To be assigned) Date of Deposit: June 28, 2001
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Filed: Herewith) I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is
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 TOPICAL APPLICATION) for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
)
Group Art Unit: To be assigned)
)
Examiner: To be assigned) 
) Richard Zimmermann
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows.

In the Specification:

Page 1, immediately following the title, please insert the following heading
and paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

A1
This is the U.S. national phase of International Application No. PCT/EP99/09289
filed November 30, 1999, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

In the Abstract:

Please add an abstract as set forth on the attached sheet.